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**JASON MATTHEWS, 77,
OWNER OF MAGAZINE**

MISSION, Tex., Nov. 30 (AP)

—Jason Matthews, publisher of The American Mercury and a writer and composer, died Monday. He was 77 years old.

A McAllen resident for the last 25 years, Mr. Matthews was a leader of conservative political causes. He was an officer in the Legion for the Survival of Freedom, Inc., along with his wife, who died last year.

He had been publisher of The American Mercury, a magazine established in 1924 by H. L. Mencken and George Jean Nathan, for two years. He was a member of the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers. Fred Waring recently performed a Matthews composition, "Maria," at a McAllen concert.

The American Mercury was sold two years ago to the Matthews group by Defenders of the Christian Faith, Inc. Maj. Gen. Edwin A. Walker, who resigned from the Army after a dispute over indoctrination in anti-Communism, was listed at that time as one of the purchasers. Marcia Matthews, a radio broadcaster known for anti-Communist broadcasts, was listed as the editor.